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1 July 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: ARGON Priority

1. This memorandum is for the information of the Director of Central Intelligence.

2. Dr. McMillan's memorandum on the above subject has not been considered by COMOR; however, on behalf of [redacted] I have talked with [redacted] the only available officer in Dr. McMillan's office.

3. From him I have learned that there is no technical reason why the ARGON cannot be utilized [redacted] (listed in the revised schedule as 9057 CM). In answer to my question [redacted] stated that the present scheduling was Dr. McMillan's interpretation of the guidance received from the Board.

4. At the time of that phone call, we had been advised that there would be no representative from the NRO at the Board meeting. I advised [redacted] that I thought it was in our mutual interest that there be a representative there in order to provide answers to the Board's possible inquiries on the schedule.

5. Also for your information, [redacted] advised that Mission 1001 (J1) would have to be fired in the two package configuration but that Mission 1002 (J2) and Mission 1003 (J3) were configured with two package primary and regular M secondary.

6. Unfortunately, the M Mission 9056 was recovered only last evening and readout is not expected to be available before the weekend. Thus it is impossible at this time to know for certain what coverage has been obtained additional to that recently acquired through Mission 9056.

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referring to Project ARGON

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7. Whereas my personal opinion is that the ARGON should be substituted for the 9057 (see M schedule for 16 July), that might be altered upon hearing further advice from the NRO.


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James Q. Reber

Chairman

Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

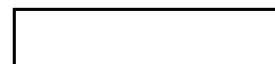
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~~ARGON~~ *file*
~~CORONA~~ *Satellite file*
SA (COMOR)/DDS&T

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22 January 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: ARGON Missions

1. The USIB is in disagreement by vote 5/1/63 on a recommendation of the COMOR that an ARGON mission be scheduled for March and April 1963. All agencies had concurred except the CIA and the State Department who agreed provided that such scheduling did not interfere with a CORONA mission.

2. (S) NRO reports that it is possible to schedule an ARGON mission for late April with no detriment to any currently scheduled mission for some other objective. [redacted]

4. Recommendation: Since in the light of the foregoing two ARGON missions can be accomplished without supplanting a CORONA mission, it is recommended that the USIB now officially request NRO to schedule an ARGON in April and an ARGON in June 1963. If the first ARGON mission is completely successful, the USIB could then cancel the second mission in June.

SIGNED

CONCUR:

HERBERT SCOVILLE, JR.
Deputy Director
(Research)

Deputy Director (Intelligence)

Date 22 JAN 1963

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CORONA Satellite

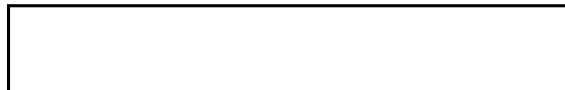
8 December 1962

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Deputy Director (Intelligence)

SUBJECT: CORONA Scheduling

REFERENCE:

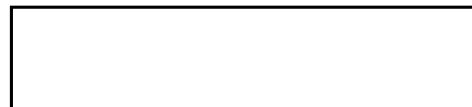


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This is in response to your memorandum on the above subject dated Thursday, 6 December 1962. The Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance considered your proposal for postponement of the 14 December KEYHOLE mission and concluded not to recommend any change for the following reasons:

a. Mission 9048 of 29 November achieved limited coverage as did Mission 9047 of 5-9 November. Mission 9049 of 5 December malfunctioned. Thus despite the apparent frequency of missions in the last two months, we have not had an adequate reading on our priority targets.

b. COMOR lacks operational information which might have important intelligence repercussions if the 14 December mission were postponed to the period between 8 January and 20 February. The Committee had in mind in this connection such factors as the availability of pads and the effect of such a change on other intelligence satellite collection schedules.



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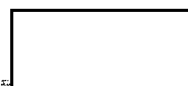
James Q. Reber
Chairman

Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

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